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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,478	10/16/2001	Hiroshi Takano	50R4592	5133

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EXAMINER
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NATNAEL, PAULOS M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/978,478

Applicant(s)

TAKANO ET AL.

Examiner

Paulos M. Natnael

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,8-12,17,18 and 27-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,8-12,17 and 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims **27-33** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by  
Srivastava, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0194596 A1.

Considering claim **27**, a system comprising:

a) a first signal source having a first analog-signal port, a first digital-signal port and a first unique signal-source identifier, is met by DVHS and HD-DSS-STB 112 with digital signal connections 126 and 127, fig.1

b) a receiver having: a first analog input channel connected to the first analog-signal port; is met by the receiver 130 with analog signal connections 123 and 124 and digital signal connections 126 and 127, fig.1;

c) a second analog input channel, is met by 124, fig.1;

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d). memory having a first device field storing the first unique signal-source identifier and a first plug-identifier field associated with the first device field, and wherein the receiver associates the second device field with the second analog input channel, wherein the receiver associates the first device field with the first analog input channel, is met by System Memory 158 (fig.1), and the disclosure that "If the viewer selects the list registration, then, at step 514, a list is displayed of known AV devices for which the respective control codes have been pre-supplied and reside in memory (e.g. on the hard drive 150)." (see paragraph [0024])

Considering claim 28, the system of claim 27, further comprising a second signal source having a second analog-signal port, a second digital-signal port and a second unique signal-source identifier, is met by VHS-VCR 120 and ports 126/127, fig.1; (as to signal identifier, the system would inherently include such signal identifiers).

Considering claim 29, the system of claim 28, the memory having a second device field storing the second unique signal-source identifier, wherein the receiver associates the second device field with the second analog input channel.

See rejection of claim 28;

Considering claim 30, wherein the first analog input channel has associated therewith a first unique analog-input-channel identifier, and wherein the second analog

input channel has associated therewith a second unique analog-input-channel identifier.

See rejection of claim 28.

Considering claim 31, wherein the receiver associates the first device field with the first unique analog-input-channel identifier.

See rejection of claim 27(d).

Considering claim 32, the system of claim 27, wherein the analog and digital signals comprise video signals, is met by video signals from video sources as shown in fig.1;

Considering claim 33, the claimed memory is a look-up table, is met by system memory 158, fig.1;

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1,4,5,8-12,17,18 are allowable over the prior art.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to disclose a system comprising: a television, including a video display, a first analog input jack, a first digital communication jack, a second analog input jack, a second digital communication jack and a digital interface, wherein the digital interface further comprises a look-up table including a plurality of device-identification fields and a corresponding plurality of analog-input identification fields; a

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first video source connected to the first analog input jack via a first analog channel and to the first digital communication jack via a first digital channel; and a second video source connected to the second analog input jack via a second analog channel and to the second digital communication jack via a second digital channel: and a video selection circuit having a first analog input connected to the first analog input jack. a second analog input connected to the second analog input jack. And an input-select port. wherein the input-select port is coupled to the digital interlace, as in claim 1;

A system comprising: a first signal source having a first analog-signal port, a first digital-signal port and a first unique signal-source identifier; and a receiver having: a first analog input channel connected to the first analog-signal port wherein the first analog input channel has associated therewith a first unique analog-input-channel identifier; a second analog input channel. wherein the second analog input channel has associated therewith a second unique analog-input-channel identifier; memory having a first device field storing the first unique signal-source identifier and a first analog-port identification field associated with the first device field and adapted to store the first unique analog-input-channel identifier; wherein the receiver associates the first device field with the first analog input channel and the first unique analog-input channel identifier, as in claim 10.


***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paulos M. Natnael whose telephone number is (703) 305-0019. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PMN  
January 11, 2005

  
**PAULOS M. NATNAEL**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**